**Common Sense**

"WHEREFORE, security being the true design and end of government, it unanswerably follows, that whatever FORM thereof appears most likely to ensure it to us, with the least expense and greatest benefit, is preferable to all others." - **Common Sense, January 10, 1776**  
  
"Of more worth is one honest man to society and in the sight of God, than all the crowned ruffians that ever lived." - **Common Sense, January 10, 1776**  
  
"The sun never shined on a cause of greater worth. 'Tis not the affair of a city, a country, a province, or a kingdom, but of a continent—of at least one eighth part of the habitable globe. 'Tis not the concern of a day, a year, or an age; posterity are virtually involved in the contest, and will be more or less affected, even to the end of time, by the proceedings now. Now is the seed time of continental union, faith and honor. The least fracture now will be like a name engraved with the point of a pin on the tender rind of a young oak; The wound will enlarge with the tree, and posterity read it in full grown characters." - **Common Sense, January 10, 1776**  
  
"It is of the utmost danger to society to make it (religion) a party in political disputes." - **Common Sense, January 10, 1776**  
  
"Mingling religion with politics may be disavowed and reprobated by every inhabitant of America." -   
**Common Sense, January 10, 1776**  
  
"I bid you farewell, sincerely wishing, that as men and christians, ye may always fully and uninterruptedly enjoy every civil and religious right." - **Common Sense, January 10, 1776**  
"When we are planning for posterity, we ought to remember that virtue is not hereditary." - **Common Sense, January 10, 1776**  
  
"These are the times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of their country; but he that stands it now, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman." - **Common Sense, January 10, 1776**  
  
"We have it in our power to begin the world over again." - **Common Sense, January 10, 1776**  
  
  
Read more: <http://www.revolutionary-war-and-beyond.com/thomas-paine-quotes-1.html#ixzz2JN2K8vtO>

*Common Sense* was written so that people of the day could understand it, today we have trouble with it. I have selected some quotes which I hope capture Paine’s appeal of the day and that appeal was of course, common sense. The following questions will help you grasp the intent more readily.

1. What does Paine infer?
2. What are some explicit arguments?
3. Why did he title it “Common Sense”?
4. What logic, reason and emotion are used to persuade?
5. Are there any allusions?
6. Why was this essay so popular with the people?

Research and select some other quotes that are “common sense”. Try brainyquote.com or other similar sites. Print the quote and a picture of the author on a separate piece of paper.